

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Nakai et al.

Art Unit: 1636

Application No.: 09/897,988

Examiner: Marvich

Filing Date: July 5, 2001

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1420

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING SUBSTANCE UTILIZING

MICROORGANISM

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir:

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the period for response to the Office Action dated August 9, 2004, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for reply, 1 month(s) to December 9, 2004.

The period for response has previously been extended to

Please charge our deposit account **50-3077** the requisite fees for this petition. Also, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, necessary to maintain pendancy of this application to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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110.00 DA

Shelly Guest Cermak Registration No. 39,571

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Date: November 23, 2004